



PATENT

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4/13/04  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
 )  
William L. Betts )  
 )  
Serial No.: 09/785,366 ) Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
 )  
Filed: 12/16/01 ) Examiner: To Be Assigned  
 )  
 ) Docket No.: 061607-1580

For: **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR FRACTIONAL BIT RATE ENCODING IN  
A PULSE AMPLITUDE MODULATION COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
**MAR 31 2004**  
**Technology Center 2600**

Sir:

In regard to the above-referenced application, the Applicant submits the following preliminary amendments and remarks to be respectively entered and considered prior to examination.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No.20-0778.

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## AMENDMENTS

Please enter the following amendments:

Please amend the title as indicated below. The language being added is underlined (“   ”) and the language being deleted contains strikethrough (“~~—~~”):

### In the Title:

**SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR FRACTIONAL BIT RATE ENCODING IN A  
~~PULSE AMPLITUDE MODULATION~~ COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**